

AMERICAN HORSE SLAUGHTER
PREVENTION ACT

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2002

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I join my colleagues, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. CHRIS SMITH, Mr. JONES, Mr. PALLONE, and Mr. LANTOS to introduce the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act. This bill will prevent the cruel and senseless slaughter of American horses simply to satisfy the culinary desires of consumers in Canada, Europe, Japan, and elsewhere. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 55,776 horses were slaughtered in the United States last year for their meat, which was then sent overseas for human consumption. Thousands more were shipped live across the borders to Canada and Mexico for slaughter there.

The American public is largely unaware that our horses are slaughtered for human consumption, and the three foreign-owned slaughterhouses operating on U.S. soil would like to keep it that way. As Canadian slaughterhouse operator Claude Bouvry said, "People in the horse-meat industry don't like talking about slaughtering horses for food because of the horse's almost mythical place in Western culture."

Horses have played an important role in American history, and continue to do so through their use in agriculture, transportation, law enforcement, military service and as companion animals. American culture is peppered with famous equines, including Paul Revere's Brown Beauty, General Robert E. Lee's Traveler, and General George Armstrong Custer's horse, Comanche—the sole surviving member of Custer's 7th Cavalry at Little Big Horn. Other cultural icons of the equine persuasion include the Pony Express, the Lone Ranger's faithful mount Silver, Roy Rogers' Trigger, famed Triple Crown winners Citation and Secretariat, Flicka of My Friend Flicka and Mr. Ed, to name a few.

Pet horses, workhorses, thoroughbreds, Premarin® foals (who are a byproduct of the female hormone replacement drug industry), old and unwanted horses, horses purchased under false pretences and federally protected wild horses go to slaughter. Most arrive at the slaughterhouse via livestock auctions where, often unknown to the seller, they are bought by middlemen working for the slaughter plants.

These so-called middlemen better known as "killer buyers" travel from one auction to the next collecting young, old, sick and healthy animals until their trucks are full. Some are shipped for more than 24 hours at a time without food, water or rest. Increasingly, stolen horses are included on the killer-buyers' trucks. As the article *Horse Theft: A Victim's Story* so aptly puts it "Rustling horses is quick, profitable and dirty work. Most horse thieves swiftly unload their stolen animals at auction, where most of the creatures end up at slaughter."

While the transport of horses to slaughter is itself horrific, callous handling at the slaughterhouse often results in additional suffering. Improper use of stunning equipment, designed to render the animal unconscious, means that horses sometimes endure repeated blows to the head, and remain conscious through the

last stages of slaughter, including throat slitting.

There are human health reasons to be concerned about horse slaughter, too. Because they are not raised for food or fiber, the flesh of many horses going to slaughter is likely to be contaminated with medications and other substances unfit for human consumption.

Americans do not eat horses. We do not raise them for food. The vast majority of Americans, when told that our horses are being slaughtered for dinner in Europe, are horrified. In fact, a recent survey indicated that the American public would overwhelmingly support a ban on the slaughter of horses for human consumption.

The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act is a strong bill, which will end the slaughter of our horses for human consumption for good, rather than simply sending the practice over the border. This bill has the support of the American public, the animal protection community, horse owners and prominent members of the horse industry. Mr. Speaker, as we enter the Year of the Horse I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important and long-overdue legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO SANTA CLARA
BRONCOS WOMEN'S SOCCER
TEAM, 2001 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2002

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2001–2002 Santa Clara University women's soccer team. The SCU Broncos, headed by coach Jerry Smith, took home the first-ever national title in women's sports for Santa Clara University.

Santa Clara University's athletic program, under the leadership of Athletic Director Cheryl Levick, has a rich history of dedicated and talented athletes, who work hard on and off the field, and always maintain a strong commitment to teamwork. Santa Clara University has a strong reputation in the athletic and academic fields, has proven successful in recruiting student athletes, and has provided these athletes with an excellent education and a great athletic experience. Santa Clara's student-athlete graduation rate is the highest in their league.

Though the SCU women's soccer team has been a dominant force in women's collegiate athletics, the 2001 season has proven to be their best. In 2001, with a season record of 23 wins and only 2 losses, they went on to defeat North Carolina for the national title in a 1–0 victory on December 9, 2001, in Dallas, Texas.

Santa Clara University, through its educational and athletic programs, fosters the development of scholar-athletes into outstanding leaders. The leadership skills that these scholar-athletes develop through the mentorship of Head Coach Jerry Smith, Assistant Coach Rich Manning, Assistant Coach Eric Yamamoto, and Assistant Coach Sean Purcell was strongly evident during the championship game and throughout the season. Players Danielle Slanton and Aly Wagner both took the initiative to provide their team with the

calm and confidence that only a peer can provide. Aly Wagner has earned the distinction of being named 2001 Female Collegiate Athlete of the Year by the Bay Area Sports Hall of Fame.

It is with great pleasure that I honor all of the members of the Santa Clara University Women's Soccer team: Erin Sharpe, Taline Tahmassian, Zepeda Zepesa, Alyssa Sobolik, Kerry Cathcart, Jaclyn Campi, Aly Wagner, Anna Kraus, Lana Bowen, Leslie Osborne, Jessica Ballweg, Emma Borst, Devyn Hawkins, Bree Horvath, Katie Sheppard, Allie Teague, Danielle Slanton, Chardonnay Poole, Kristi Candau, Holly Azevedo, Erin Pearson, and Ynez Carrasco. The teamwork and dedication of these athletes has made the Santa Clara University community, and the entire State of California, proud. I would also like to acknowledge the Santa Clara University Bronco's Athletic Staff, Lisa Eskey, Carrie Rubertino, Jonathan Clough and Cheryl Levick.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to commend and congratulate the Santa Clara University Women's Soccer Team, 2001 National Champions. Go Broncos!

BIPARTISAN CAMPAIGN REFORM
ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2356) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to provide bipartisan campaign reform:

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Chairman, last night, the House passed H.R. 2356 as amended, the Bipartisan Campaign Reform Act of 2002.

I would like to speak today to provide guidance to the Federal Election Commission regarding its future interpretation of one of the provisions of H.R. 2356.

H.R. 2356 sets forth a definition of "electioneering communications" in Title II. Certain exceptions to this definition are set out in Section 201(3)(B) of the bill, and include (i) news distributed by broadcast stations that are not owned or controlled by a candidate, (ii) independent expenditures, (iii) candidate debates and forums and (iv) "any other communication exempted under such regulations as the Commission may promulgate . . . to ensure appropriate implementation of this paragraph."

Specifically, I wish to address some questions that have been raised about the purpose of the fourth exception.

The definition of "electioneering communication" is a bright line test covering all broadcast, satellite and cable communications that refer to a clearly identified federal candidate and that are made within the immediate pre-election period of 60 days before a general election or 30 days before a primary. But it is possible that there could be some communications that will fall within this definition even though they are plainly and unquestionably not related to the election.

Section 201(3)(B)(iv) was added to the bill to provide the Commission with some limited discretion in administering the statute so that